



# The Hour

*"keeps up with Hitler to the minute"*

NUMBER 21

November 25, 1939

## NEWS-KEY

Propagandist Pfaus is Somewhere in U. S.?	page 1
Himmler Starts New Secret Police Corps	" 2
Pelley Reported Hiding in Black Hills, S. D.	" 3
Misled Judge Protests Coughlinism in Rhode Island	" 4
Maerz & Co. Held on Bail in Chicago	" 5

A news-letter issued by the American Council Against Nazi Propaganda, Inc.

W. 42nd St., New York  
able Address: ACANP

oard

Editor

Dr. Albert Parry

Editorial Consultants

Robert Dell

Prof. F. L. Schuman

Leland Stowe

Hendrik van Loon

Wythe Williams

Number 21

November 25, 1939

### NAZI PROPAGANDIST OSCAR C. PFAUS MAY STILL BE IN THIS COUNTRY

Revealing Evidence in Kuhn's Paper -- Stream of Literature Sent  
Here from Hamburg is Likely to be Directed by Pfaus' Aides

Oscar C. Pfaus, leader of a German Nazi propaganda machine, who was named by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities as the man who attempted to set up an anti-Semitic publication in New York, is reported by the American press to have remained in the Reich because of the war. However, according to the information reaching The Hour, Pfaus arrived here from Hamburg during the week of August 7, and has since been traveling in the United States renewing contacts among Nazi and native-fascist agents in this country. One strong evidence supporting this report is the appearance in Fritz Kuhn's Deutscher Weckruf und Beobachter for October 5, on Page 8, of an article entitled "We Accuse!" and subtitled: "Press Statement made in Chicago by Oscar C. Pfaus." That the statement-article was prepared by Pfaus since the outbreak of the war may easily be established by the contents of the piece, which has to do exclusively with the events and issues of the present war in Europe.

### Fichte-Bund Very Active as Propaganda Bureau

The rumor, published in the U. S. press, that Pfaus was still in Germany, apparently stems from the continued stream of Nazi literature sent to various persons and institutions in this country from Pfaus' headquarters in Hamburg, many of the books and pamphlets accompanied by letters signed by "Oscar C. Pfaus," and some of the books bearing the inscription: "With kindest wishes from Oscar C. Pfaus." The plausible supposition is, however, that his name is signed by his Hamburg assistants for the express purpose of misleading United States investigators into thinking that Pfaus is still in Germany and not in America.

Pfaus is the head of Deutscher Fichte-Bund, which is officially explained by the Nazis as follows: "The Fichte-Association was founded in January 1914 in memory of the great German philosopher Fichte. Union for World Veracity. Serves the cause of better under-

standing by giving free information about the New Germany, direct from the source. To protect human culture and civilization by disseminating facts about the subversive powers in the world." The Hour has at its disposal some of the literature mailed to Americans by Fichte-Bund from Hamburg via Italy as late as the end of October, 1939; among other pieces, there is a book entitled The Eighth Crusade. Uncensored Disclosures of a British Staff Officer (autographed by Oscar C. Pfaus under the date of November, 1939), and a pamphlet entitled "Speech delivered by Herr von Ribbentrop, Reich Minister for Foreign Affairs, in Danzig on October 24, 1939." Letters, accompanying this literature, urge the American recipients to send their replies and requests via the Italian Line. (In this connection it is interesting to note that on November 20 the U. S. press published reports from Rome that Italian liners had been stopped and searched by the British at Gibraltar.)

#### Pfaus, Moseley & Co. -- Plans for a Newspaper Miscarried

Oscar C. Pfaus claims to have been a long-time resident of the United States. His friend, the Nazi woman-physician of New York, Dr. Anna Bogenholm Sloane, once stated that during the World War Herr Pfaus had served in the American army under General George Van Horn Moseley, the very same Moseley who recently became known for his fascist and pro-Nazi activities and speeches in America.

Several months ago, together with the woman-doctor, Pfaus planned to establish in New York an anti-Semitic and anti-democratic newspaper to be called The National American Patriot. Pfaus suggested the hiring of one James Philip Gaffney, of New York, who according to him "would be ideal" because of his "Irish-American connections." Pfaus and Gaffney corresponded, and Dr. Anna Bogenholm Sloane wrote to Pfaus that she was contemplating the formation of a Council of Twelve to back the newspaper. Among the twelve, with whom she said she was in correspondence, she named General Moseley, William Dudley Pelley, Father Coughlin, James True, George Deatherage, Reverend Winrod, Fritz Kuhn, George Christians, Harry A. Jung, Hiram Wesley Evans of the Ku Klux Klan, and other notorious fascists.

At the time of his reported arrival in this country (early in August), Pfaus was said to have brought with him a fund of \$10,000 to start the newspaper. This sum was to be matched with another fund of \$5,000 to be contributed by Dr. Anna Bogenholm Sloane, but the plans were spoiled by premature publicity.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### NEW SECRET POLICE IN THIRD REICH

Heinrich Himmler, the head of the Gestapo, has set up a new political secret corps with unlimited powers to use every government department and official for purposes of fighting "state's and volks (people's) enemies." It will collect, investigate and act on reports, made to it by any German citizen, concerning the activities of any other citizen who is doing and saying things which are in the slightest degree critical of the present state of affairs. The Nazi party is to have special tasks within this new key organization, which is run by old and tested SS (Black Shirt) leaders.

\* \* \* \* \*





## PELLEY REPORTED HIDING IN BLACK HILLS OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Chief of Fascist Silver Shirts Missing Since October 19 -- Asheville  
Judge Charges North Carolina Fuehrer with Foreign Financial Ties

A private report reaching The Hour states that William Dudley Pelley, at present a fugitive from justice (see our last issue, for November 18), is now hiding in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Another report has it that last month the fascist head of the Silver Shirts was seen in Washington, D. C., conferring with a certain congressman. Other information, additional to our last account of Pelley's case, is as follows:

The goateed fuehrer of the Silver Shirts of America has been missing from his headquarters at Asheville, North Carolina, since October 19 when a *capias* for his arrest was issued. The case against Pelley developed out of a criminal act he had committed four and one-half years ago against North Carolina's Blue Sky Law when he sold stocks in his publishing company despite its bankruptcy. He was convicted in 1935 on charges of violating that law and of fraudulent misrepresentation while selling stock in his enterprises. He was sentenced to a fine of \$1,000 and a term in prison of from one to two years. The fascist leader made a strong personal appeal to the judge and was released on probation for five years; the condition of the probation was for him to refrain from his illegal activities.

## Complaint Against Pelley by Citizens of North Carolina

However, his behavior became worse than ever. The Pelley Publishing Company expanded until he issued 30,000 copies of various anti-government and anti-Semitic publications daily. His pamphlets were soon the most vicious of their kind in the United States. He was openly proud of the confidence of the Nazis, and he cooperated with the German-American Bund, his Silver Shirts coming to attend and "protect" many a Bund meeting.

The complaint against his violation of probation was brought to the court by a patriotic group of prominent citizens of North Carolina, among whom there was not a single Jew. Pelley was cited to appear in Superior Court in Asheville on charges of violating the conditions of the two suspended sentences. Among the charges there were the allegations that he had "consorted with known enemies of American institutions," that he had distributed publications aimed at the "overthrow of the Government," and that he had "leveled disgusting epithets at the office of the President of the United States." While issuing the *capias*, Judge Nettles of Asheville declared that there were many reasons giving ground to belief that in his latest Silver Shirt activities Pelley was financed by "foreign and un-American sources."

\* \* \* \* \*

## HIGH LOCAL OFFICIALS ON COUGHLINITE PLATFORM AT PAWTUCKET, R. I.

Later Claim They Were Duped -- State Justice Protests  
Against Speech by Christian Fronter of Boston

Francis P. Moran (also known as Frank Moran), the noted Coughlinite of Boston, has been recently touring the various areas of New England in his efforts to stir up racial and political hatred. His most notorious sally took place on the night of November 10, at Pawtucket, Rhode Island, and the repercussions of that occasion were heard for a fortnight and more afterward.

On that night, the so-called Friends and Neighbors Club, which owes its existence to the Friends of Social Justice Unit in Blackstone Valley, arranged a meeting in the auditorium of a Pawtucket senior high school. Moran, in his capacity of a Christian Front organizer, announced that the purpose of the meeting was to hear the Rev. Edward F. Curran, of New York, president of the International Catholic Truth Society, speak of Communism. A number of local leaders and officials came to the meeting and sat on the platform, later claiming that they did not know either of Moran's Coughlinite affiliations and activities or of the Coughlinite character of the Friends and Neighbors Club. Among others present at the meeting and sitting on the speakers' platform were: State Supreme Court Justice Francis B. Condon, who is a former Congressman and present American Legion Department Commander; the Rev. Arthur J. Watson of St. Luke's Episcopal Church; also officials of the city school department and leaders of local veterans' organizations.

## Moran Charges "President Rosenfelt" with "Treason"

The one thousand Coughlinites making up the audience cheered and applauded, but some of the honored guests on the platform were shocked, when Moran in his speech proceeded to call the President of the United States "Mr. Rosenfelt," saying: "I stand here and accuse the President of the United States of treason." Moran also said that "high administration officials in Washington were anti-Christian," and that Mrs. Roosevelt "frequently visited the Communist party headquarters in New York."

The next day Judge Condon made public his protest at Moran's speech, declaring with much indignation: "I would not be on the same platform with that speaker if I knew he would make those radical statements." He added that Father Curran, too, did not have "to resort to unfounded charges to support his ideas," that he could "differ with men without charging them falsely."

## Coughlin Publicly Acknowledges Moran's Aid

The Hour on September 23 revealed that Francis P. Moran, together with one Edward H. Hunter, were in charge of most Coughlinite activities in the Boston area. It was Moran who in the early fall engineered the Christian Front in the Mechanics' Hall of Boston. In a special news-story half a column long, Coughlin's Social Justice of October 23 boosted "Boston's Second Rally Against Un-Americanism," which was set for October 24 in the Boston Arena under the auspices of the so-called Committee for the Defense of American Constitutional Rights. Father Coughlin's journal



proudly wrote: "Mr. Francis Moran will preside. ... Admission is by way of ticket, but no admission price is charged. Mr. Moran can be reached at (address is given)." Thus, clearly, behind Moran and his vicious attacks there stands the Rev. Charles E. Coughlin himself.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### INDICT AND JAIL FASCIST "DR." MAERZ AND ASSOCIATES

#### Chicago's Silver Shirts Held in Bail \$5,000 Each

In Chicago, on Thursday November 9, the self-styled "Doctor" Homer Herman Maerz and his fascist associates were brought to the felony court before Judge Gorman and were transferred to the grand jury the next day, Friday the 10th. The Grand jury heard their confessions read by a representative of the state attorney's office: that they were active in an anti-Semitic and anti-government campaign, that they sat in the car from which stones were thrown at the windows of a Jewish-owned department store, and that they painted the sign of the swastika on the walls of the same store (see The Hour for October 28 and November 4). After due deliberation, the grand jury voted an indictment and held Maerz and others on \$5,000 bail each. Joseph Schimpf and George Heppner were able to arrange for bail, but Homer Maerz, Fred M. Pokorny and Douglas Campbell have remained in jail.

During the hearings, the five Silver Shirts blamed Chicago's Jews for breaking up the meetings of their organization. However, it is known that in the last few months many of their meetings were held in Chicago practically unhindered. Maerz as leader of the local Silver Shirts, and William Wernecke as leader of Chicago's Nazis, both arranged meetings on every Thursday: Maerz in Sommer's Hall, 4220 Lincoln Avenue, and Wernecke at the Mozart Hall on the Near North Side. The curious sidelight is that the owner of the Mozart Hall is a Jew, who permitted the Silver Shirts and the equally fascist and anti-Semitic Dearborn Crusaders to meet in his hall and distribute within its walls thousands upon thousands of leaflets blaming the Jews for the present war in Europe. The owner now states that at the time he did not know the nature of those meetings.

#### Nazi Wernecke Battles Policeman

Commotion was caused by Nazi Wernecke when on Friday the 10th the five Silver Shirts were brought to the grand jury. Wernecke had furnished the preliminary bail for Maerz, his close friend and associate in fascist and anti-Semitic activities. He was present when the bail was raised to \$5,000; the raising of the amount angered him to such an extent that, red in the face, he hit a policeman, creating a turmoil in the jury room. He was immediately arrested and was kept in the police station from Friday to Sunday afternoon, when he was booked. On Monday the 13th he appeared before Judge McGoorthy and was fined \$100 and costs. Wernecke appealed the case.

